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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT N

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TOPIC Koethen Airfield

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTE

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 7 August 1950

REFERENCES

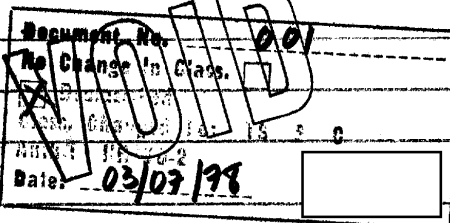
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PAGES 1

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 16 October 1976 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States
Next Review Date: 2008



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SOURCE

1. The artillery unit stationed at the Koethen (M 52/D 95) airfield seemed to have decreased, because the motor vehicles previously seen were no longer in the barracks area. Twenty-five soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia, marched from the kommandantura to the airfield. Truck [] occupied by driver students of an artillery unit, proceeded to the field. * Truck [] carried an air force officer, an MVD officer and two air force soldiers from the field to the railroad station.

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2. Work on the runway proceeded very slowly because the terrain was uneven. Part of the runway west of the road to Edderitz (M 52/D 95) was concreted. The western end of the runway was being widened to the north. A taxiway, 10 to 12 meters wide, ran from the eastern end of the runway to the hangars. The runway was 60 x 1,800 meters. **

3. Since the ammunition dump in the southeastern corner of the field was no longer guarded it was believed that the old ammunition boxes were empty. *** There was no radio station. Four or five wooden, semi-underground bunkers and wooden sheds for tank trucks were between the barracks and the railroad line north of the field.

* [] Comment. This is the first report that the army units quartered in the barracks at the field have decreased. In addition to the army units, air force ground units of unknown strength are stationed at the field.

** [] Comment. The length and width of the runway agrees with the statement [] [] [] It is not believed that the runway will be completed before 1 September 1950.

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*** [] Comment. The ammunition dump was presumably evacuated in connection with the transfer of the ground attack regiment.

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